

PATENT

Serial No.:
Filed:
Examiner:
Art Unit:
Applicant: Lowell F. Matthews et al
Title: MULTIPLE LAYER LABELS AND METHODS

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

December 31, 2001

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In the specification, page 1, first paragraph, has been changed to read:

Field of the Invention

This invention relates to multiple layer labels and more particularly to new multiple layer label structures and methods of making such labels.

This application is a divisional of U.S. Serial No. 09/266,638, filed March 11, 1999 entitled MULTIPLE LAYER LABELS AND METHODS.

In the specification, on pages 20, line 16, has been amended to read:

...made in the labels. The transverse cuts thus, for example, 36 and portion 41 of cut 38,...

On page 25, line 12, has been amended to read:

...overlaminate 112 overlaps the upper label layer formed by the cut lines 108-...

On page 35, line 5 has been amended and now reads as follows:

In Fig. 19, a non-release zone 226 around three sides of the upper...

On page 40, line 2 has been amended and now reads as:

...synthetic, clear or opaque and can have patterned or full release coating.

On page 40, line 23 has been amended and now reads as follows:

...many objectives, including the basic objective of providing a process...

In the claims, please cancel claims 17-40, 44 and 50-58.

In the claims, claims 1, 11 and 12 have been amended and now read as follows:

1. In a process for making a multiple-layer label, the steps of:

providing hold-down openings in a first web defining an upper label layer;

combining said first web with a second web which second web defines a base label layer; and

applying an adhesive overlaminant to said first web, said overlaminant extending over and through said hold-down openings in said first web and securing said first and second webs together.

11. In a process of forming a multiple layer label, the steps of:
 - providing hold-down openings in a first web defining an upper layer label;
 - combining said first web with a second web which second web defines a base label layer, and applying a hold-down tape to said first web in a disposition overlying said openings;
 - said hold-down tape securing said two webs together through said openings; and
 - die cutting said first web and said tape and removing a combined waste matrix of portions of said first web and said hold-down tape to leave discrete upper labels held by discrete hold-down tapes on said second web, wherein said hold-down tapes are narrower than the width of said discrete upper labels.
12. The process of claim 11, including the further step of applying an adhesive overlaminant web over said discrete upper labels and hold-down tapes and onto said second web.

Please add new claims 59-71 as follows:

59. The process of claim 1 wherein the first and second webs are combined before the adhesive overlaminant is applied to said first web.

60. The process of claim 1 wherein the overlaminates are applied to said first web before the first and second webs are combined.

61. The process of claim 7 including forming the tabs extending from a portion of the upper labels other than a leading edge thereof.

62. The process of claim 7 including forming said tabs of both overlaminates and a portion of otherwise waste matrix such that said tabs are secured to said upper labels by overlaminates material disposed between said upper label and said tab.

63. The process of claim 11 wherein the first and second webs are combined before said tape is applied to said first web.

64. The process of claim 11 wherein said tape is applied to said first web before said first web is combined with said second web.

65. A process as in claim 41 wherein said overlaminates are applied to said first web before said first and second webs are combined.

66. A process as in claim 41 wherein said first and second webs are combined before said overlaminates are applied to said first web.

67. A process as in claim 42 including the further step of forming tabs extending respectively from an edge of said upper labels.

68. A process as in claim 67 wherein said tab is formed with one portion comprising only overlaminates and a second portion comprising both overlaminates and a reinforcing layer.

69. A process as in claim 45 wherein said overlaminates are applied to said first web before said first and second webs are combined.

70. A process as in claim 45 wherein said first and second webs are combined before said overlaminates are applied to said first web.

71. A process as in claim 48 wherein said tabs are formed with a reinforced portion and a portion consisting of said overlaminates, and wherein said tab is secured to said label by an overlaminates portion extending between the label and the tab.

REMARKS

The change to page 20, line 16 is for consistency. See page 17, line 1, for original reference.

The change to page 40, line 2, is also for consistency. See page 19, lines 13-15; page 24, lines 21-22 and page 31, lines 13-16 for original reference.

Certain original claims have been amended for purposes of terminology, consistency and form.

New claims 59 through 71 have been added to further claim the invention.

Changes in the figures are suggested as follows:

In Fig. 3C, the number 38 lead line should point to the line just to the left of where it originally pointed (see page 16, lines 14-16).

In Fig. 4C, the number 38 should be --41-- (see page 17, line 1). Also, the lead line from 42 should point to the forward edge of the opening 20 (specification, page 17, line 2).

Fig. 24 is missing a line to the left of the tab area defined by 296 and should be added. See Fig. 24, numbers 294, 296, 297.

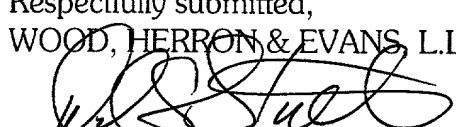
Formal drawings with these changes will be filed upon the Examiner's approval of the changes. Copies of the affected figures showing the changes in red are filed herewith.

Examination of the application as amended is requested.

This application is being filed to pursue non-elected claims subject to a restriction requirement issued by the Examiner in applicant's parent case, U.S. Serial No. 09/266,638.

Please charge any deficiency in connection with this Preliminary Amendment to the undersigned's deposit account no. 23-3000.

Respectfully submitted,
WOOD, HERRON & EVANS, L.L.P.



David S. Stallard
Reg. No. 25,930

2700 Carew Tower
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
(513) 241-2324

MARKED UP VERSION SHOWING CHANGES MADE:

Field of the Invention

This invention relates to multiple layer labels and more particularly to new multiple layer label structures and methods of making such labels.

This application is a division of U.S. Serial No. 09/266,638, filed March 11, 1999
entitled MULTIPLE LAYER LABELS AND METHODS.

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On page 25, line 12, has been amended as follows:

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On page 35, line 5, has been amended as follows:

In Fig. 19, a non-release zone 226 [aroudn] around three sides of the upper...

On page 40, line 2, has been amended as follows:

...synthetic, clear or opaque and can have patterned or full release coating.

On page 40, line 23 has been amended as shown:

...many objectives, including the basic objective of providing a [procedures] process...

Claims 1, 11 and 12 have been amended as follows:

1. In a process for making a multiple-layer label, the steps of:

providing hold-down openings in a first web defining an upper label layer;

combining said first web with a second web [defining] which second web defines a base label layer; and

applying an adhesive overlaminant to said first web, said overlaminant extending over and through said hold-down openings in said first web and securing said first and second webs together.

11. (AMENDED) In a process of forming a multiple layer label, the steps of:

providing hold-down openings in a first web defining an upper layer label;

combining said first web with a second web [defining] which second web defines a base label layer, and applying a hold-down tape to said first web in a disposition overlying said openings;

said hold-down tape securing said two webs together through said openings; and

die cutting said first web and said tape and removing a combined waste matrix of portions of said first web and said hold-down tape to leave discrete upper labels held by discrete hold-down tapes on said second web, wherein said hold-down tapes are narrower than the width of said discrete upper labels.

12. (AMENDED) The process of claim 11, including the further step of applying an adhesive overlaminant web [onto said second web and] over said discrete upper labels and hold-down tapes and onto said second web.

New claims 59-71 have been added as follows:

59. The process of claim 1 wherein the first and second webs are combined before the adhesive overlaminant is applied to said first web.

60. The process of claim 1 wherein the overlaminant is applied to said first web before the first and second webs are combined.

61. The process of claim 7 including forming the tabs extending from a portion of the upper labels other than a leading edge thereof.

62. The process of claim 7 including forming said tabs of both overlaminates and a portion of otherwise waste matrix such that said tabs are secured to said upper labels by overlaminates material disposed between said upper label and said tab.

63. The process of claim 11 wherein the first and second webs are combined before said tape is applied to said first web.

64. The process of claim 11 wherein said tape is applied to said first web before said first web is combined with said second web.

65. A process as in claim 41 wherein said overlaminates are applied to said first web before said first and second webs are combined.

66. A process as in claim 41 wherein said first and second webs are combined before said overlaminates are applied to said first web.

67. A process as in claim 42 including the further step of forming tabs extending respectively from an edge of said upper labels.

68. A process as in claim 67 wherein said tab is formed with one portion comprising only overlaminates and a second portion comprising both overlaminates and a reinforcing layer.

69. A process as in claim 45 wherein said overlaminates are applied to said first web before said first and second webs are combined.

70. A process as in claim 45 wherein said first and second webs are combined before said overlaminates are applied to said first web.

71. A process as in claim 48 wherein said tabs are formed with a reinforced portion and a portion consisting of said overlaminates, and wherein said tab is secured to said label by an overlaminates portion extending between the label and the tab.

59. The process of claim 1 wherein the first and second webs are combined before the adhesive overlaminates are applied to said first web.

60. The process of claim 1 wherein the overlaminates are applied to said first web before the first and second webs are combined.

61. The process of claim 7 including forming the tabs extending from a portion of the upper labels other than a leading edge thereof.

62. The process of claim 7 including forming said tabs of both overlaminates and a portion of otherwise waste matrix such that said tabs are secured to said upper labels by overlaminates material disposed between said upper label and said tab.

63. The process of claim 11 wherein the first and second webs are combined before said tape is applied to said first web.

64. The process of claim 11 wherein said tape is applied to said first web before said first web is combined with said second web.

65. A process as in claim 41 wherein said overlaminates are applied to said first web before said first and second webs are combined.

66. A process as in claim 41 wherein said first and second webs are combined before said overlaminates are applied to said first web.

67. A process as in claim 42 including the further step of forming tabs extending respectively from an edge of said upper labels.

68. A process as in claim 67 wherein said tab is formed with one portion comprising only overlaminates and a second portion comprising both overlaminates and a reinforcing layer.

69. A process as in claim 45 wherein said overlaminates is applied to said first web before said first and second webs are combined.

70. A process as in claim 45 wherein said first and second webs are combined before said overlaminates is applied to said first web.

71. A process as in claim 48 wherein said tabs are formed with a reinforced portion and a portion consisting of said overlaminates, and wherein said tab is secured to said label by an overlaminates portion extending between the label and the tab.

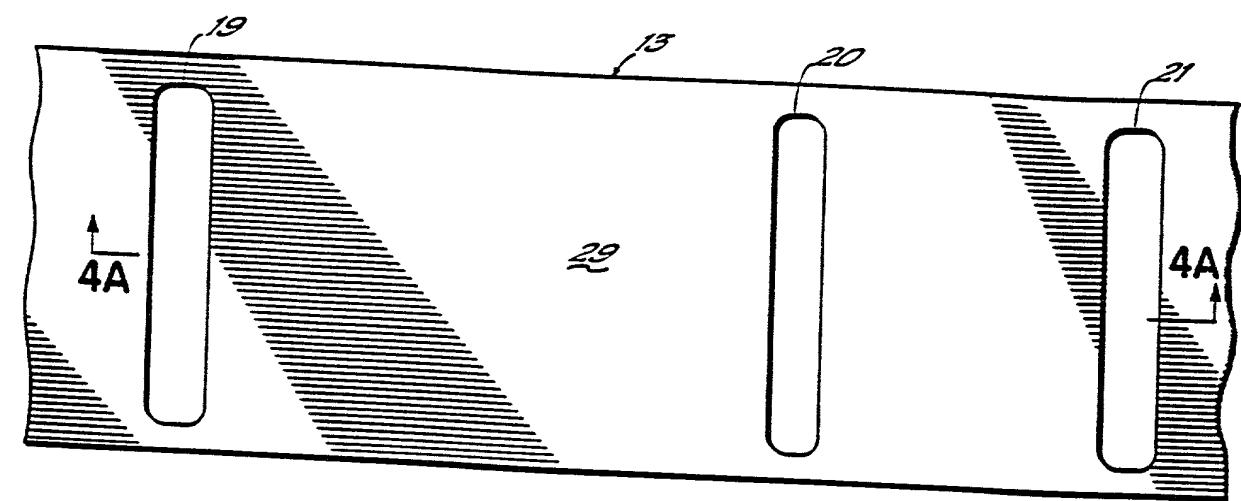


FIG. 3A

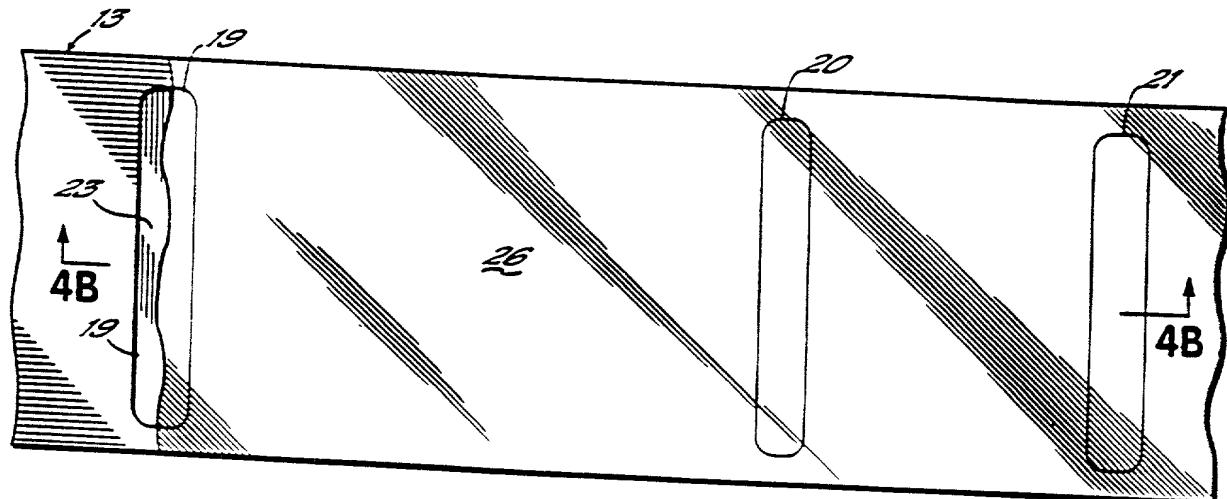


FIG. 3B

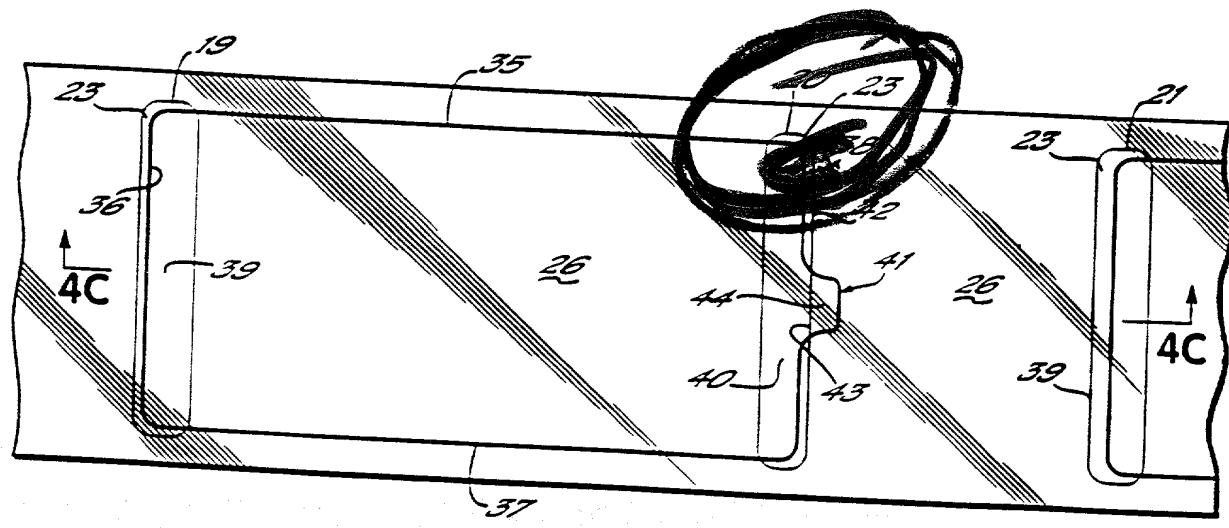
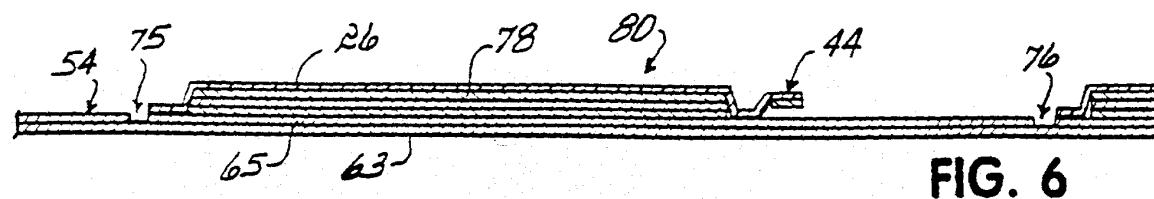
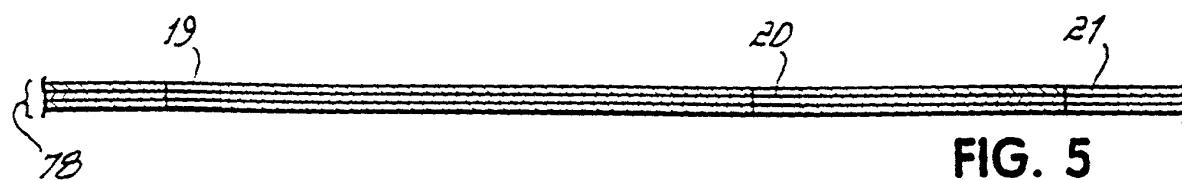
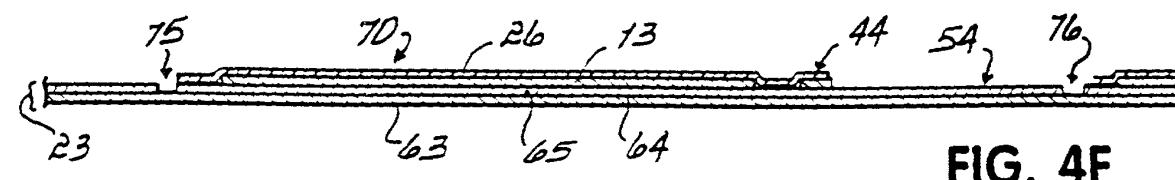
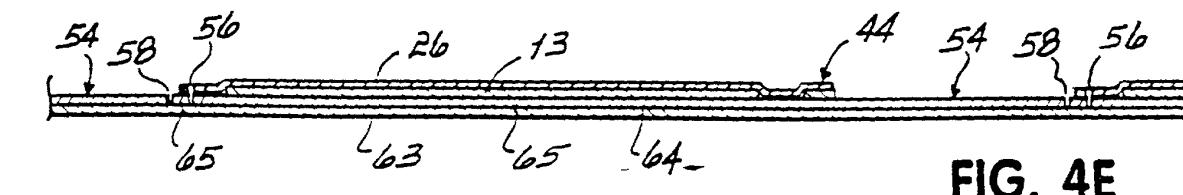
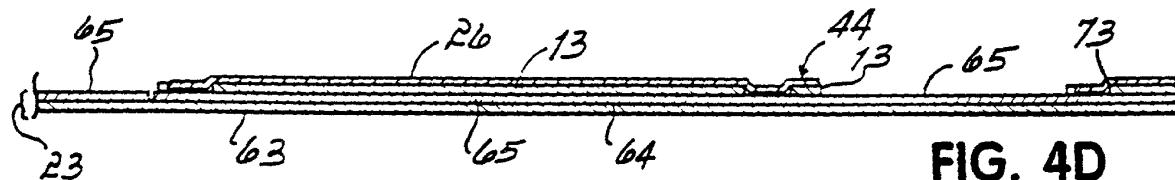
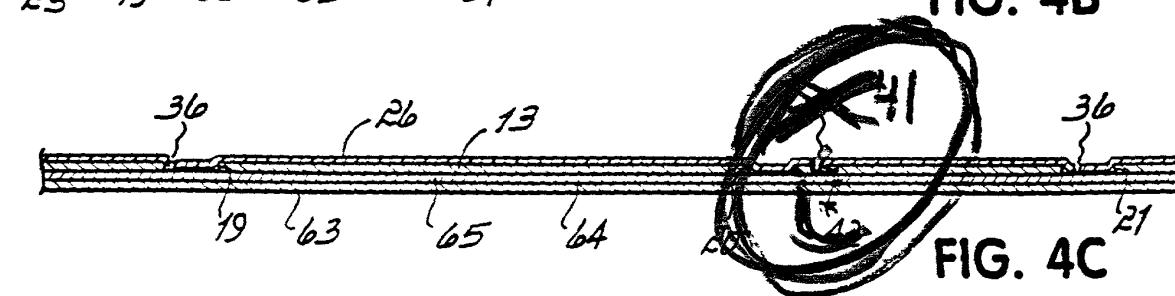
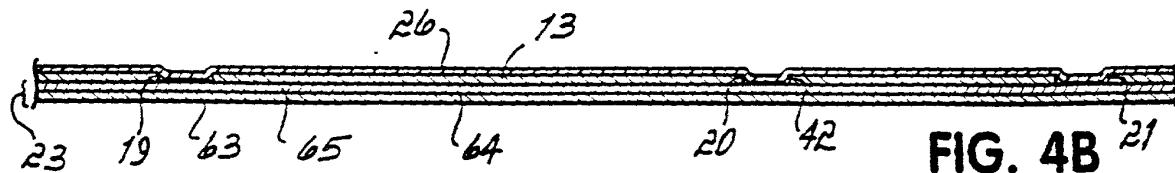
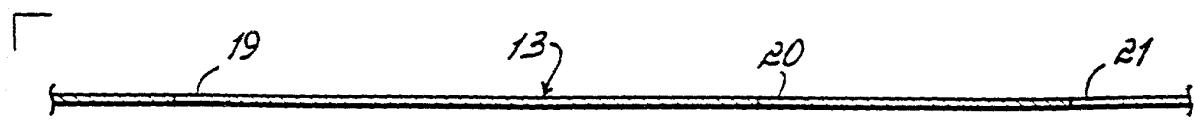


FIG. 3C



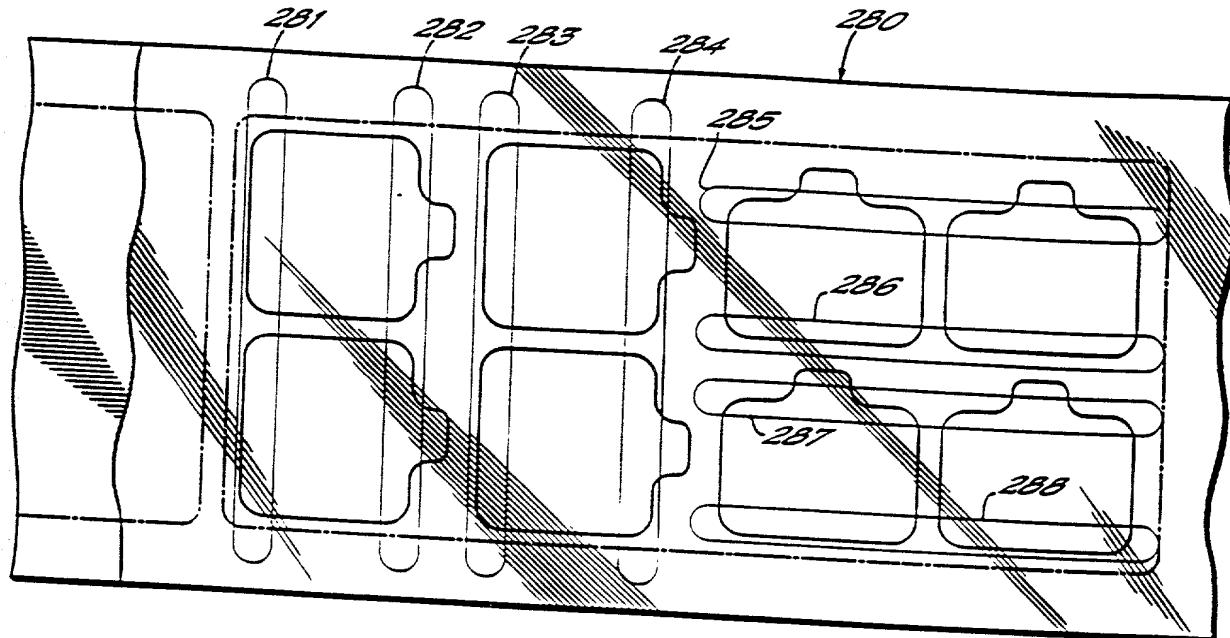


FIG. 23

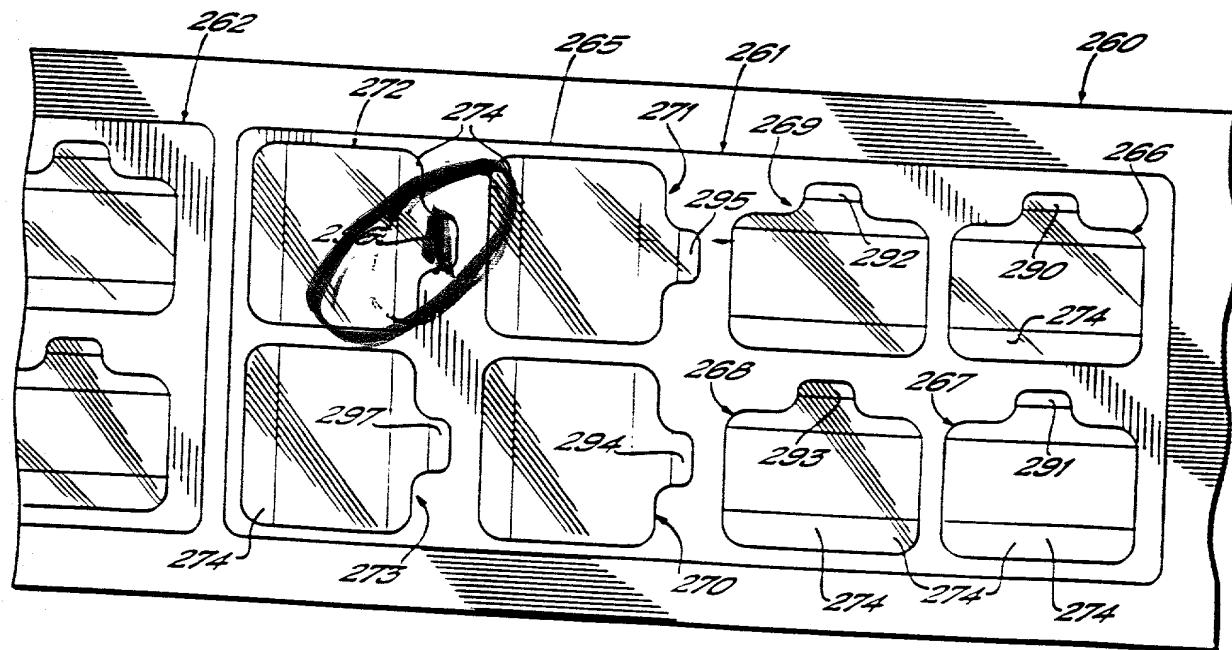


FIG. 24